

IV. *Description of a new Species of the Genus Dinidor, belonging to the Hemiptera Scutata.* By W. S. Dallas, Esq., F.L.S.

[Read 3rd May, 1852.]

As an addition to a paper which I had the honour of communicating to this Society at its February meeting, I beg leave to lay before the Society the following description of a singular insect belonging to the genus *Dinidor*, Laporte.

*Dinidor gibbus*, n. s. (Pl. I. fig. 7.)

*D. fuscus*, nigro-punctatus; thorace spinoso; scutello basi valde elevato, gibbo, apice subemarginato, bituberculato, et tuberculo obtuso pone medium; membrana fuscescente, fusco-reticulato. ♀

Long. lin. 8. (M. 0.017.)

Hab. in Brasilia. In Mr. Dossetor's collection.

Broadly ovate, brown, punctured with black. Head entire, and somewhat pointed in front, the lateral lobes meeting in front of the central lobe, with their lateral margins slightly reflexed; above spotted and punctured with black; beneath with two longitudinal black stripes. Eyes brown; ocelli reddish. Antennæ black, sparingly pilose; last joint wanting; basal joint with a few small orange-brown spots; second joint very long, with a slight constriction near its base; third joint about twice as long as the first, with its base reddish. Rostrum reaching the base of the abdomen, pitchy brown, with the tip blackish, and the base of the second joint somewhat fulvous; labrum testaceous. Pronotum with a small tooth at each anterior angle, its antero-lateral margins strongly waved, smooth, and its lateral angles acutely spinous; the disc convex and coarsely punctured posteriorly, with an irregular thickly punctured black band across the middle; the anterior portion sparingly and irregularly punctured. Scutellum with the base elevated into a large rounded tubercle, and with a small orange tubercle on each side on the basal angles; the disc with a small obtuse tubercle at the commencement of the narrow portion; the apex black, somewhat emarginate, with a slight tubercle on each side. Breast blackish, finely punctured, with a few orange-brown spots on each side; at the base of each leg a testaceous

spot punctured with brown; mesosternum brown. Legs brownish orange, mottled with black; tibiæ with an indistinct orange ring in the middle; tarsi reddish, with the basal joint, the apex of the third joint, and the tips of the claws, black. Elytra; coriaceous portion brownish testaceous, rather thickly and finely punctured and mottled with brown; membrane brownish, semi-transparent, closely reticulated with brown nervures. Margins of the abdomen fulvous, punctured and spotted with black. Abdomen beneath brownish fulvous, very flat, with a distinct, smooth central furrow, the sides covered with small, black, somewhat confluent spots.

This species is rendered very remarkable by the form of its scutellum, of which the base is elevated into a large rounded tubercle, and the apex slightly emarginate, and bituberculate. The membrane of the elytra is also much more closely reticulated with brown nervures than in any other described species of *Dinidor*.

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V. *Apparatus for destroying Mould on Insects, by the Vapour of Spirits of Wine.* Invented by M. VICTOR GHILIANI, Employé au Museum Royal de Turin. Communicated by JOHN CURTIS, Esq., F.L.S.

[Read 1st March, 1852.]

ONE of the most important objects, after amassing a collection of insects, is to secure its preservation; and one of the most essential requisites is a substantially-built and dry house. I need not enumerate the difficulties in tropical countries to secure preserved specimens of natural history from destruction; and even in North America the conditions of the climate, in some parts, are so peculiar, that at certain periods it seems next to an impossibility to preserve such objects from the effects of damp. In England there are three enemies to contend with—1st, *insects*, such as the larvæ of *Tineæ*, *Anobia*, *Anthreni*, *Acari*, and an *Atropos*; 2ndly, *grease* exuding from dead specimens; and lastly, *mouldiness*.

With any degree of care, none of the insect enemies are to be feared, excepting the *Atropos*; and in glazed drawers or air-tight boxes, with a constant supply of camphor, the contents are secure from these active little pests. Thanks to the experiments of Lepidopterists, a remedy is found against the greasing of insects,